



DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.

TEXAS DIVISION
FREEPORT, TEXAS 77541

February 11, 1983

C. M. Warren
A-606

AIRBORNE ASBESTOS LEVELS WHILE HANDLING TRANSITE® BOARD

On January 10, 1983, monitoring was conducted at Caustic I, A-800, to determine airborne levels of asbestos while Transite board was dropped from the side of A-811 into a dumpster below. Additionally, monitoring was conducted while a piece of transite was pulverized with a hammer, in order to estimate a maximum concentration possible if Transite boards were broken into pieces before disposal. Samples were collected using calibrated Bendix pumps to draw measured volumes of air (1 - 1.5 liters/min.) through lined aerosol filters (Millipore MAWG 937 AO). Samples were analyzed using optical microscopy at Analytical Services, B-1225.

Monitoring results are shown in Table I. All airborne concentrations of and employee exposures to asbestos were well within acceptable levels. Asbestos concentrations were less than 5% of the allowed exposure limit during the removal and disposal of Transite board from A-811, and were only 35% of the allowed exposure limit while the Transite was being pulverized.

Based on these monitoring results, removing and disposing of Transite board does not present an asbestos inhalation hazard to employees, and no special precautions are necessary to control employee exposures.

E. P. Whatley
Environmental Health Services

dsp

Attachment

S10015035

TABLE I
Caustic I, A-800

AIRBORNE ASBESTOS LEVELS WHILE HANDLING TRANSITE BOARD

SAMPLE ID	ASBESTOS CONCENTRATION (fibers/cc of air)
<u>removal and disposal of Transite board:</u>	
- on edge of dempster	.07
- on edge of dempster	.05
- on edge of dempster	.06
- Harold Barrett (466-76-8037) working at ground level	.06
<u>pulverizing Transite with hammer:</u>	
- C. M. Warren (113835)	.3
- 1 foot above transite	.7

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ALLOWED EXPOSURE LIMIT --- 2 fibers/cc of air

EPW/dsp
2/11/83

asbestos at Caustic 1
A-811 demolition (transite disposal)

EDW
1-10-83

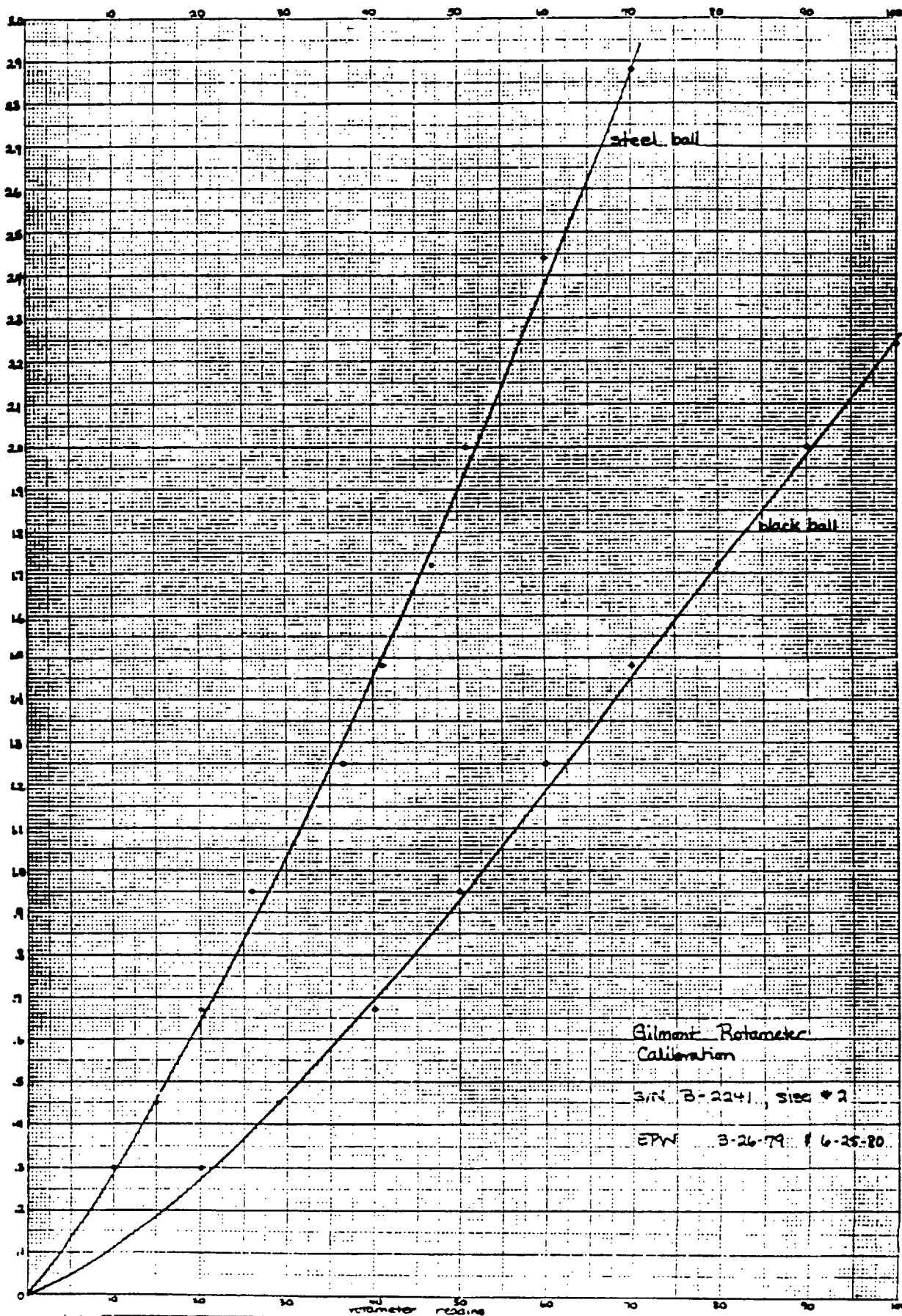
sample #	time (min)	rate (epm)	vol (L)	fibers/ filter	# fibers / cc of air	sample ID
-1	35	1.51	52.9	3696	.07	on edge of dumpster
-2	35	1.07	37.5	1848	.05	Harold Barnett (466-76-8037) ground level
-3	35	.74	85.9	1584	.06	on edge of dumpster
-4	35	1.34	46.9	2816	.06	on edge of dumpster
-5	4	1.51	6.04	1848	.31	Charlie Warren - breaking transite w/ hammer
-6	4	1.38	5.52	3608	.65	~ 1 foot above transite being pulverized

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Date: 2/7/83
File #:
By: Barbara Pinner

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asbestos at Caustic I - A-811 modernization project

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